

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Michael Bahr. First and foremost, I am a citizen of the Sacramento area. I am also a construction management professional, with an emphasis on sustainability – both in how buildings are designed and how they are constructed. Because buildings are not islands of concrete and steel, but connected to the fabric of cities, this has also led me to learn about urban design and planning and the basics of city management.

I am well aware of the *Mayor's Commission on Climate Change: Achieving Carbon Zero in Sacramento & West Sacramento by 2045* and have read the report dated June 15th in its entirety. I have been made aware that after the multi-year effort of research, community engagement and ongoing dialogue, that the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce representatives have raised objections and requested that no mandatory requirements be imposed until 2030.

After reading the report, it is my personal and professional opinion that the recommendations made by the MCC report need to be implemented as quickly as possible. The data and science behind the dangers of carbon are clear and unquestionable – excess quantities of carbon are quickly destroying everything we hold dear.

I do not know all the Chamber of Commerce's objections, but I do know that as an organization its purpose is to "advocate for and support the inclusive economic prosperity of our capital region." I consider myself a capitalist at heart, and fully support the right of businesses to run their operations as they see fit except when their rights as a business begin to infringe on the rights of individuals. The way we currently build, run businesses, and live our lives is infringing on individual rights by creating climate change – natural disasters such as wildfires that destroy livelihoods and take lives are increasingly more common and harder to fight, increases in daily temperatures pose public health risks, and those you have the least among us feel the efforts first and most acutely.

A [regional report for the Sacramento region as part of the CA 4th Climate Change Assessment](#) found that inaction will lead to the following consequences within the next 20-80 years (easily within my young child's lifespan) – increases of daily temperatures by as much as 10 degrees, hotter and longer heat waves, increase risk of wildfires, reduction of the Tule Fog that makes our agricultural industry so healthy, increased risk of flooding due to rising sea levels, and the shifting of winter precipitation to rain from snow in the beautiful mountains we all love.

I add my voice to those of others who have spoken. We call on you as our local leaders to act on the MCC report recommendations for carbon neutrality in the built environment, mobility, and equity. Waiting to act, or inaction all together, change the fabric of our lives for the worst. Businesses and individuals will be negatively affected. We can not wait. It is my professional & personal opinion that the MCC report recommendations need to be implemented as quickly as we can, within the next few years.

Sincerely,

Michael Bahr

